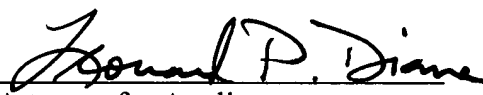


REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-14, and 16-19 remain presented for examination. Claims 9 and 19 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Claims 1, 11, 12 and 16 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested on the grounds set out in the Amendment dated December 8, 2003.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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